

gladiolus - 'ordian' set
from Robert Lincoln Beckwith

DRILLER 87

7/2009 US 81115

Chung, Frederick A.



glassware - cordial set
from Robert Lincoln Backus

Curios and Relics

China, Kitchenware, & Glassware

Glassware

Cordial Set

2 RHUCB 20

China, Kitchenware, etc

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



Oct. 1981

LINCOLN COLLEGE
Lincoln, Illinois 62656

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Paul J. Beaver Editor & Curator
of the Lincoln Museum

Lincoln from All Over

by Paul Beaver

James T. Hickey, curator of the Lincoln Collection for the Illinois State Historical Library reports that Robert Todd Lincoln Beckwith, Abraham Lincoln's last descendant, has made several gifts recently which completes the disposition of the Beckwith (Lincoln) material. The Louis A. Warren Collection, Lincoln National Life Insurance, was given a cordial set belonging to President and Mrs. Lincoln and a chair from the Lincoln White House very similar to the one displayed in the Lincoln College Museum.

An original desk from the Robert S. Todd (Mary Todd Lincoln's father) home in Lexington, Kentucky was returned to the restored Todd home; now called the Mary Todd Lincoln Home.

Neely Honored

Dr. Mark Neely, Head of the Louis A. Warren Collection, was honored with a doctorate from Lincoln College at the College's fall Convocation.

The Convocation was held in Kelso Hollow at New Salem State Park. This convocation was in recognition of Lincoln's entry into New Salem 150 years ago.

Neely, a recognized Lincoln scholar, was joined on the speakers stand by Alan J. Dixon, United States Senator from Illinois.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The following articles are the work of our contributing Editor RICHARD E. SLOAN of New York. Richard published *The Lincoln Log* for many years on his own and now has joined our publication as a contributing editor.

RAILSPLITTING FESTIVAL

HUGE SUCCESS

The annual Logan County Abraham Lincoln National Railsplitting Festival completed a very successful weekend affair on September 19 & 20.

Lincoln College Campus was again the site of the event which features a large craft fair (over 200 different groups or individuals demonstrated their special crafts.)

The College Museum hosted some 1,000 visitors during the weekend festival which concluded with a National Railsplitting Contest on Sunday afternoon.

Sang Sale

Sotheby Parke Bernet in New York announces what is thought to be the final sale of the Phillip Sang Collection of Lincolniana and Americana on Friday, December 4, at 2:00 p.m. This sale, as have the past sales, will be held in the New York Galleries of Sotheby's. At this writing no catalog is yet available of what is to be offered. One item always seems to command the attention of both Forbes Magazine and the New York media. Forbes has made many "news worthy" purchases in past sales.

LINCOLN CELEBRATIONS—Lincoln's birthday isn't always celebrated in February. It will be celebrated in HODGENVILLE, KENTUCKY on October 10th and 11th, with a parade, a railsplitting contest, games, foods, an Arts & Crafts show, and other activities emphasizing the Lincoln theme. Arts & Crafts show, and other activities emphasizing the Lincoln theme. (Last year, 8,000 folks watched the parade!) There will be an art show, with prizes to winners. A Lincoln look-a-like contest will also be held, with the winner getting to march at the head of the parade. Anyone interested in participating in the contests can get details from Lincoln Days Celebrations, P.O. Box 176, Hodgenville, Ky. 42748, or by calling 502-358-3411. * * * A Lincoln look-a-like contest was a recent feature of "Lincolnfest," a celebration held this summer in Springfield, Illinois to commemorate Lincoln's move to the city 150 years ago. A ten-block area was set up with many displays (such as Thomas Dyba's 1/48 inch furnished scale model of Lincoln's home), a Mary Todd & Crafts fair, a carnival of ethnic foods, and the Lincoln look-a-like contest. (R.E.S.)

*Lincoln moved to New Salem 150 years ago, which can broadly be claimed as a part of the Springfield area (Editor's note).



LINCOLN MUSEUM

Pictured are some of the displays featured in the Lincoln Museum on the campus here at Lincoln College.

FORMER LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CHIEF DIES—Noted Lincoln scholar David C. Mearns, 82, Chief of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress from 1951 to 1967 (longer than any other occupant of that office) died May 21. Even after retirement, Mr. Mearns continued to serve as an honorary

Library and Museum receives gifts from Lincoln's descendant

The Louis A. Warren Lincoln Library and Museum received two gifts recently from Robert Lincoln Beckwith, the last living descendant of Abraham Lincoln.



The wicker chair, with mother of pearl backing, and the etched crystal cordial set, with its rosewood storage case, will become center pieces for a modified White House display in the Museum. According to Mark Neely, Ph.D., Director of the Library and Museum, "They are the biggest and best items from Lincoln's White House years which are owned by the Museum." The new display will be unveiled after the first of the year.

The Sixteenth President's great-grandson is distributing his personal collection of Lincolniana among the various museums and foundations devoted to President Lincoln. Dr. Neely, said the chair and cordial set were probably gifts to the President while he was in the White House.

According to Neely, such gifts are easily identified since the furnishings of the White House provided by the government must, by law, remain in the President's residence when he leaves office. The fact that Mr. Beckwith had these items in his personal collection indicates they were at one time the personal property of President Lincoln.

Neely's theory that the chair and cordial set were gifts is corroborated by the fact that President Lincoln and his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, did not



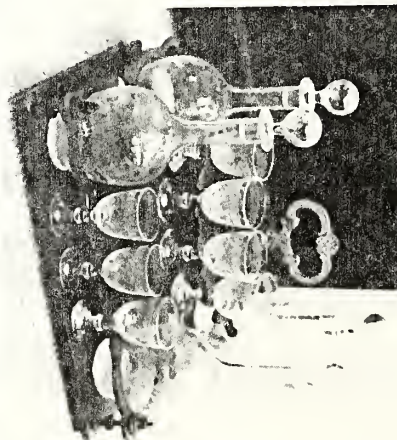
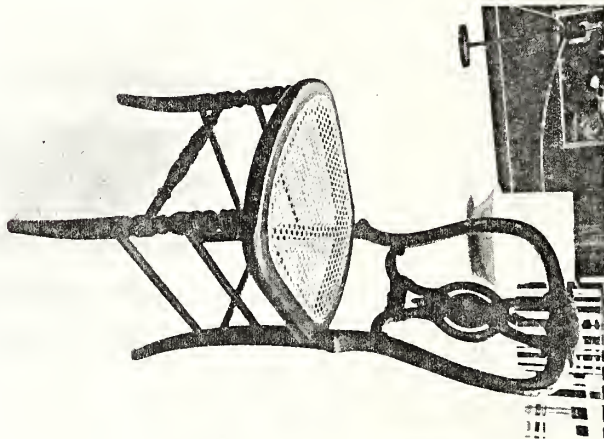
drink. He suggests, however, that the couple probably used the cordial set when entertaining guests at the White House. Neely indicates that historians strive to trace the history of ownership as closely as possible. "The fact that these items came directly from Lincoln's great-grandson provides a pretty strong case as to their origins and authenticity."

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